Conversion of Extension Counters of Punjab and Sind Bank into Full-fledged Branch

1899. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Large Number of Extension Counters of Punjab and Sind Bank in Delhi have already crossed their deoosits limit prescribed for their conversion into full-fledged branch offices as per existing guidelines of RBI;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the extension Counter in Shalimar Bagh area has secured leading position in its deposit receipts since March, 1996;

(d) whether Government propose to convert this counter into a full-fledged Branch providing wider scope of services to be availed of by account-holders; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

Medical Facilities to be provided in the Poly Clinic at C-4 Block, Janakpuri, New Delhi

1900. SHRI VISHNU KANT SHASTRI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a multi storeyed building has been constructed in C-4 Block, Janakpuri, New Delhi, to start Poly Clinic for providing various medical facilities to CGHS beneficiaries;

(b) if so, the details of the medical facilities to be provided; and

(c) by when Government propose to start the Poly Clinic in the said building which has been ready for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The medical facilities proposed to be provided are the same as are presently provided at the Janakpuri 'A' Block polyclinic-cum-dispensary, namely, services of specialists in Medicine, Gynaecology & Skin as also Laboratory facilities for conducting biochemical/ pathological tests. Full-fledged dispensary would also function in the same premises.

(c) The possession of the said building is yet to be handed over to CGHS. On getting possession, the polyclinic could be started.

Leper Population in India

1901. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details on the leper population in the country;

(b) state-wise break up thereof;

(c) whether there has been no significant decline in the number of lepers in the country; and

(d) in what way, Government propose to tackle this continuing problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM QBAL SHERVANI): (a) and (b) The details of leprosy popolation in India, State-wise is given as statement (*see* below).

(c) and (d) There has been decline in prevalence of leprosy from 57 per 10,000 population in 1981 to 5.9 per 10,000 population in 1996 which is due to the effective implementation of the national Leprosy Eradication Programme. There has been decline in the Number of lepers in the country. District Leprosy Societies have been formed under the Chairman-